

09/437,948

TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER  
LOW.

36-3002

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY: Elizabeth Shewell

DATE: December 26, 2002

## Patent

### Box Non-Fee Amendment

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re:            Patent Application of  
                      Nanning J. Arfsten, *et al.*

: Group Art Unit: 1775

Appln. No.: 09/437,948

: Examiner: J. McNeil

Conf. No.: 8672

Filed: November 10, 1999

For: NIOBIUM OXIDE-BASED LAYERS  
FOR THIN FILM OPTICAL COATINGS  
AND PROCESSES FOR PRODUCING  
THE SAME

: Attorney Docket  
: No. 275-3US

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**AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated October 3, 2002 (Paper No. 16) in the above-identified patent application.

**Please amend the application without prejudice as follows:**

**Please add the following section at page 1, below line 3:**

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

~~This application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. Application No. 10/139,477,~~

~~filed May 6, 2002, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/201,599, filed~~

November 30, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,410,173 B1.--

## REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22, and 23 are presently pending in the application.